

Message Text

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71

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

INFO AMCONSUL DOUALA

UNCLAS STATE 296163

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC

SUBJECT: AMERICAN SPECIALIST PROGRAM - WAHL, NICHOLAS

REF: STATE 275080

AS INDICATED REFTTEL, AMSPEC NICHOLAS WAHL WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE ALEXANDRA WAHL WHO HOPES TO SEE TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN CRAFTS DURING HER TRIP. SHE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE ANY SUGGESTIONS POSTS MIGHT HAVE CONCERNING PLACES TO VISIT OR PERSONS TO MEET. FOLLOWING IS BACKGROUND INFORMATION THAT SHE HAS SUPPLIED: ALEXANDRA WAHL IS A PROFESSIONAL DESIGNER-CRAFTSMAN OF JEWELRY, WORKING IN GOLD, SILVER AND BOTH PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES. EDUCATION: BA IN ART HISTORY AND DESIGN, BROWN UNIVERSITY; M.F.A. IN SILVER-SMITHING AND JEWELRY FROM THE SCHOOL OF AMERICAN CRAFTSMEN, ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY- SHE HAS STUDIED PRIVATELY WITH ADDA HUSTED-ANDERSEN AND MARGARET SEELER (JEWELRY AND ENAMELING) AND HAS SERVED AN APPRENTICESHIP IN SILVER-SMITHING WITH GEORG JENSEN IN COPENHAGEN. OF HER WORK SHE UNCLASSIFIED

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WRITES: "THE UNCLUTTERED FORMS TYPICAL OF SCANDINAVIAN

DESIGN CONTINUE TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN MY WORK BUT
THEY NO LONGER SEEM SUFFICIENT. SINCE BEGINNING WORK IN
CERAMIC FIVE YEARS AGO I HAVE EXPLORED MORE MALLEABLE AND
FLUID SHAPES AND MY INTEREST IN THE ORGANIC HAS INCREASED.
RECENTLY THE STRUCTURES AND FORMS OF SEA SHELLS AND SEED
PODS HAVE PLAYED A ROLE IN MY DESIGNS." KISSINGER

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